Welfare mechanism for population

3328. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that large percentage of population is being excluded from the welfare mechanisms which are meant for the development;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to constitute an expert committee to study the range of exclusion; and

(c) if so, the steps being initiated by Government to ensure that the population is not being excluded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) An Approach Paper to the 11th Five Year Plan "Towards Faster and More Inclusive Growth" states "...There are many divides, all demanding equal attention. Foremost among these is divided between the rich and the poor ... poverty is declining, but at a modest pace which is no longer acceptable given the minimalist level at which the poverty line is fixed. The pace of poverty reduction must be accelerated. There is also a divide between those who have access to essential services and those who do not have access to essential services, which leads to large disparities in health and nutritional status, in education and skills, as also in availability of clean water and sanitation. There are also excluded groups in our society such as Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs), some minorities who continue to lag behind the rest. "The 11th Plan provides" an opportunity to restructure policies to achieve a new vision of growth that will be much more broad based and inclusive, bringing about a faster reduction in poverty and helping bridge the divides ..." As of now, the Government is not considering to constitute an expert committee to study the exclusion of any category of persons.

Recommendation of Anwarul Hoda Committee

†3329.DR.MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Anwarul Hoda Committee appointed by Planning Commission, has recommended that in order to do away with shortage, private sector be given concession in vocational and higher education and allowed freedom to determine fee and earn profit.

(b) if so, the details of the recommendation;

(c) whether Government has deliberated on this recommendation; and

(d) if so, the decision taken by Government to implement it in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The High Level Group on Services Sector constituted by the Planning Commission under the Chairmanship of Member, Shri Anwarul Hoda has expressed the view that "...having regard to the magnitude of the new investment needs it would be necessary to involve private and corporate sector fully for expanding facilities for higher education. While giving freedom to the private sector institutions in respect of fees, it would be necessary to ensure that they provide scholarships and free-ships

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.